

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 160

By Fincher

A RESOLUTION to recognize Whitney Wells upon being selected as the winner of the state Voice of Democracy Scholarship Contest.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this General Assembly should honor those students who, through their natural talents and unflagging commitment, have achieved excellence in their scholarship endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Whitney Wells is one such estimable student who was recently selected as the winner of the state Voice of Democracy Scholarship Contest; and

WHEREAS, *Freedom's Challenge* was the theme of the 2006-2007 contest, an annual nationwide audio essay contest; the competition, designed to promote patriotism, is open to high school students ages fifteen to nineteen; and

WHEREAS, Whitney Wells' first-place win in the District Eleven competition, sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Ladies Auxiliary groups, qualified her to compete in the state contest; she is the first person from District Eleven to win the state competition; and

WHEREAS, the daughter of proud parents, Stuart "Doc" and Susan Wells, Whitney Wells is a senior at Cookeville High School, where she is an accomplished member of that school's speech team; she says she loves speaking and speech competitions; and

WHEREAS, Whitney Wells joins a legendary list of past Voice of Democracy winners including, Charles Kuralt, the late television newscaster; Anita Bryant, a former Miss America; and John Ashcroft, a former U.S. Attorney General; and

WHEREAS, along with an award of recognition for her win, Ms. Wells has also collected a \$2,500 scholarship; she receives an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., where she will compete on a national level with fifty-one other contestants; and

WHEREAS, Whitney Wells is worthy of honor for her academic achievements, public speaking abilities, and pursuit of excellence in all her endeavors; her future can be categorized

as nothing short of outstanding, and, for her exemplary accomplishments, she is most deserving of this body's commendation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor Whitney Wells upon being selected as the winner of the state Voice of Democracy Scholarship Contest, commend her on her excellence in supporting the ideals of democracy and patriotism, and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.